

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner's comments in the Office Action dated August 25, 2004 have been noted and considered. Applicants' appreciation is extended to the Examiner for the allowance of claims 1-3 and the issues taken with regard to claims 14 and 42 are understood and these two claims have been canceled. With regard to the remaining claims that have been withdrawn from consideration due to a multiple dependency format depending from other multiple dependent claims, the position taken by the Examiner is noted with agreement. Consequently, claims 3-41 have been amended, as necessary, in order to eliminate any multiple dependent claims. As the Examiner will now note with regard to the amendment response, each dependent claim refers back to only a single prior claim, thereby putting all of these remaining claims in condition for allowance. Additionally, Applicants have elected to substitute for the phrasing "characterized in that" the term "wherein" as perhaps being more consistent with U.S. patent practice.

With regard to new claims 43-46, 43 is basically the same claim as claim 3 that has been allowed, but the multiple dependency of claim 3 has been amended such that claim 3 depends from claim 1, allowing claim 43 to recite the same elements with a dependency from claim 2. Based upon this splitting of claim 3 into two claims of similar composition, claim 43 should be allowed.

With regard to claims 44 and 45, it will be noted that in claim 1, as already allowed, references are made to both reflection signals and matter excitation signals. While no issue is taken with regard to claim 1, Applicants believe that they are entitled to claims of varying scope such that claim 44 is directed to only the reflection signals while

claim 45 is directed to only the matter excitation signals. In view of the allowance of claim 1 and the basis for that allowance, claims 44 and 45 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 46 is based upon canceled claim 14, though without the text and narrative that the Examiner found to be objectionable. Claim 46 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

With regard to the minor amendments to the specification, it was noted that the FIG. 5A and FIG. 5B labeling in the drawings used upper case letters while the text did not. Accordingly, the text has been amended for consistency with the form of the drawing labels. As far as the one drawing change, it is not clear what may have transpired with regard to compiling the data and any word processing or drawing file handling, but it is noted that in FIG. 2, an Italian term was left in box 16 and an Italian term was left in box 17. It is assumed that those are the issues raised by the Examiner with regard to the drawing informalities. In order to address this concern, a copy of that page, with red-marked corrections, is provided with this amendment response. In anticipation of approval by the Examiner, a replacement drawing page, with those corrections being made, is also provided.

In view of the addition of claims 43-46, an additional filing fee in the amount of \$124 has been calculated and that amount is enclosed by credit card authorization.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 2 has been red-marked with the requested changes and the Examiner is requested to approve those changes in that they are believed to address the drawing informality issue raised by the Examiner.



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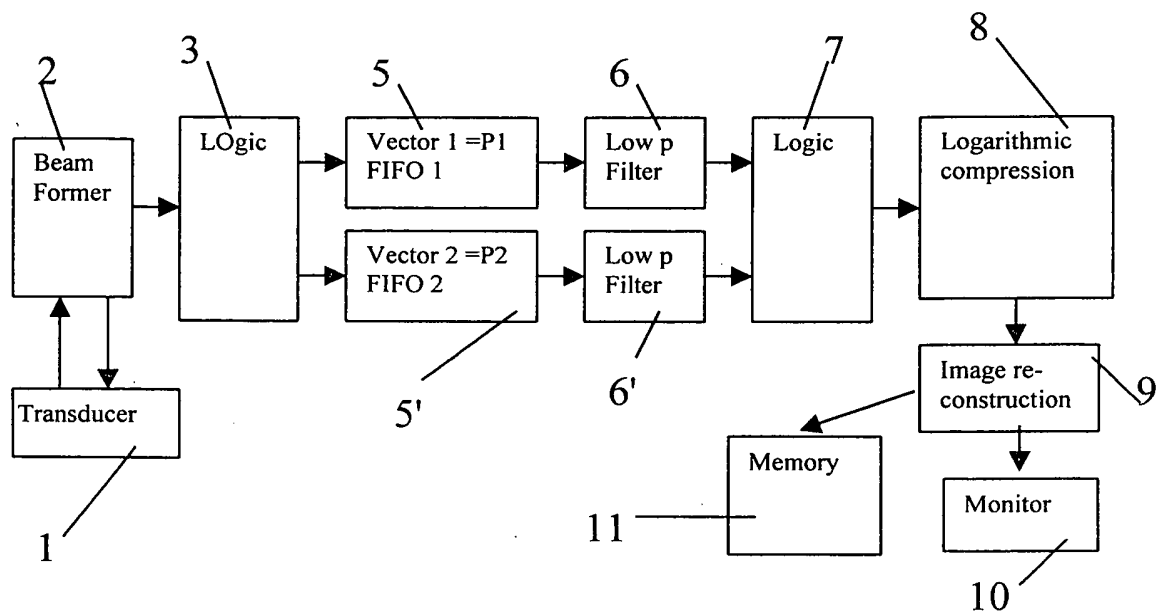


Fig. 1

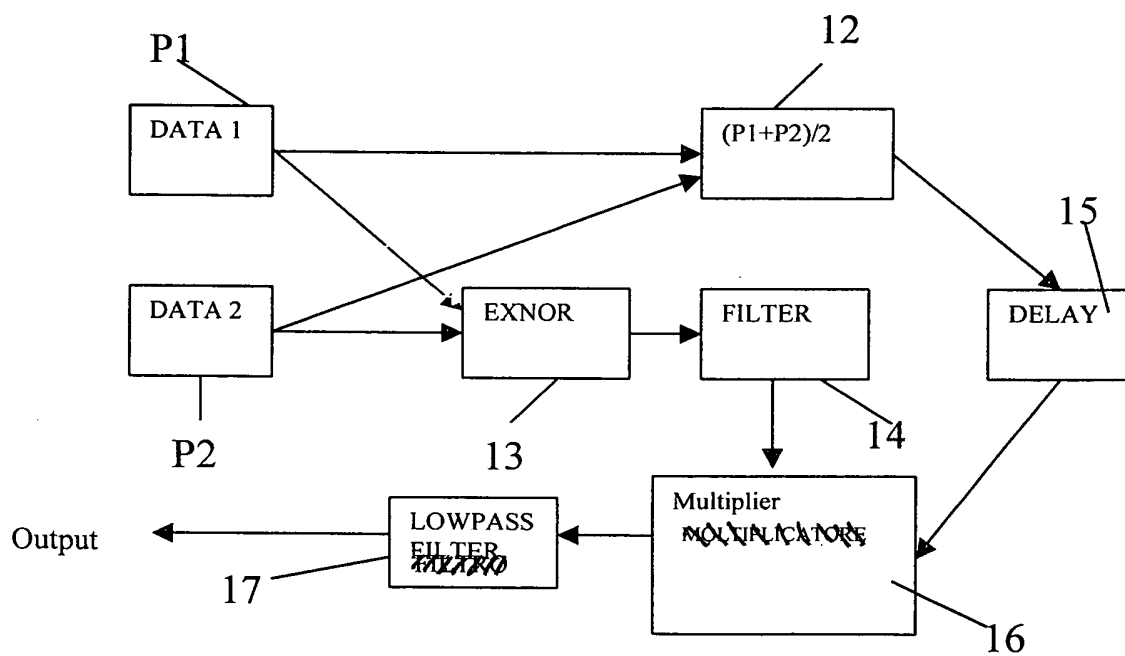


Fig. 2